

Overview of the South Dakota Assessment System

<i>Characteristic</i>	<i>(DSTEP) Dakota State Testing of Educational Progress</i>	<i>Dakota Writing</i>	<i>(ACCESS) Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State</i>	<i>(DSTEP-A) Dakota STEP-Alternate</i>	<i>(STAARS-W) South Dakota Team-Led Alternate Assessment and Reporting System-Writing</i>	<i>(NAEP) National Assessment of Educational Progress</i>
<i>Primary Purpose</i>	School accountability - Improve instruction	Improve instructional writing skills	Test of annul English language progress	Federal requirement, school accountability, improve instruction	Improve instruction	Benchmark for national standards
<i>Subject Areas Tested</i>	Reading, Math, and Science	Writing	English Language Acquisition	Reading, Math, and Science	Writing	Reading, math, science, and writing
<i>Type of Test</i>	Criterion-referenced (standards based)	Performance-based	Augmented Norm-referenced and performance-based	Standards based and Criterion-referenced	Performance-based	Criterion-referenced and Norm-referenced
<i>Grade Levels</i>	Reading/Math Grades 3-8 and 11 Science grades 5, 8, & 11	5, 7, and 10	K-12	Reading/Math Grades 3-8 and 11 Science grades 5, 8, & 11	5 and 9	4 and 8 12 state level pilot in 2009
<i>Item Types or Formats</i>	Multiple choice	On demand, direct measure	Multiple choice, speaking, and writing,	Rating Scale and Supporting Evidence	Portfolio	Multiple choice, constructed response
<i>Administration Dates</i>	Beginning of April	Last week in February	February	February- mid March	February- mid March	Late January - early March
<i>Dates When Results Released</i>	August	August	May	August	Scored by teacher	September – Reading and Math January of following year - Science or Writing
<i>Frequency of Test Administration</i>	Annually each spring	Annually	Annually for students identified as LEP	Each Spring	Each Spring	Biannually for reading and math. Every 4 years for science and writing
<i>Administration Time</i>	Untimed	50 minutes	2 hours Approximately	Untimed	Untimed	90 minutes
<i>Test Length</i>	Varies by grade	Two prompts per grade	Varies by grade span	NA	NA	Varies
<i>Assessment Design</i>	Common fixed-length form	Two prompts delivered to every student	Common fixed-length, common prompt and speaking	Common fixed rating scale Supporting Evidence validates rating on rating scale.	Teacher driven by selecting a standard under each indicator	Balanced Incomplete Block Spiraling (multiple forms)
<i>Types of Scores Reported</i>	Scaled scores, percentiles, performance levels	Analytic	Scaled scores, percentiles, performance levels	Raw score, performance level	Performance level	Scaled scores, achievement levels
<i>Achievement Levels Reported</i>	Below basic, basic, proficient, advanced	6 areas with 4 levels each	Entering, Beginning, Developing, Expanding, Bridging, Reaching	Introducing, Developing, Applying Advancing	NA	Basic, proficient, advanced
<i>Levels of Reports</i>	Student, school, district, state	Student, school, district, state	Student, district, state	Student, school, district, state, parent	Student and parent	State, region, nation
<i>Students Tested</i>	All public students, grades 3-8 and 11 (includes alternate assessment)	All students, grades 5, 7 and 10	All public LEP students K-12	Students who meet significant cognitive disability criteria	Students who meet significant cognitive disability criteria	Sample of schools, sample of students, grades 4 and 8
<i>Testing of Students with Disabilities</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes – no accommodations are allowed	Only for students with significant cognitive disability	Only for students with significant cognitive disability	Yes, unless NAEP does not provide accommodations required in IEP
<i>Accommodations for Students with Disabilities</i>	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Testing of Students with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, if student is on an IEP and meet criteria significant cognitive disability criteria	Yes	Yes
<i>Accommodations for LEP</i>	Yes	Yes	None	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Policies and Laws</i>	South Dakota Codified Law 13.3.55	South Dakota Codified Law 13.3.55	PL 107-110: Title III and Title 1	NCLB and Title 1 PL 107-110	IDEA PL 105-17	NAEP authorization, NCLB, and NAGB policies
<i>History of Program</i>	Began in 1985, major revision in 2003 and 2007	Began in 1998	Began Spring 2003 with the SELP/DELP	Revised and renamed 2005	Began in 2000	1990 for math, 1992 for reading, 1998 for writing, and 1996 for science
<i>Parental Permission</i>	Not required	Not required	Not required	Parents are integral part of process	Parents are integral part of process	Follows local guidelines. Parents can opt their child out
<i>Parental Notification</i>	Not required	Not required	Not required	Parents are integral part of process	Parents are integral part of process	Required
<i>Test Development</i>	State and contractor developed with input from teachers and state personnel	Contractor developed with input from teachers and state personnel	State and contractor developed with input from teachers and state personnel	State and contractor developed with input from teachers and state personnel	State developed with input from teachers and state personnel	NAGB, NCES, ETS, Pearson, Westat